

RM Singles Tennis Online Challenge Ladder Rules

General Information

2008 Spring Session March 10-May 9, 2008. Strong participation/activity is needed for a successful ladder. You must play at least one match within a 3-week period to remain active on the ladder. Players are responsible for arranging their own matches. You may challenge any player on the ladder regardless of ranking. All challenges must be accepted and played within 2 weeks. One of the challenge option dates must include a weekend or night unless both participants waive this right. A rematch cannot occur unless you have played three others on the ladder. Challenge matches do not have to be played at Sunset Park. All Rocky Mount Parks and Recreation courts are available and free on a walk-up basis. Matches may also be played at private clubs in accordance with guest policies. For the initial ladder, only one scored match maximum per week.

In order to register for play, participants must first complete the "Tennis Anyone" registration form available online at: www.rockymountnc.gov/parks.

Participants must also register for access to the Rocky Mount Tennis Ladder website at : www.sportsmatchsoftware.com/clubs/rockymountparksandrecreation

Ladder Ratings

There will be three divisions of match play available for the Mens' Ladder – 3.0, 3.5, and 4.0 and three divisions of match play available for the Womens' Ladder – 2.5, 3.0, and 3.5

Qualifications

You must be 16 or older to play, unless you play in the RM City Tennis League and/or have signed parental approval.

Ladder Fees

A registration fee of \$25.00 for Rocky Mount residents (\$32.00 for non-residents) is due upon signing for the 9-week season.

Match Rules

All matches must be the best two out of three sets. A "12 point" tie-breaker (won by the first player to get at least 7 points and lead by at least 2 points) is normally used to decide a set when games are 6-6. The winner of the match is required to record the scores online prior to midnight Sunday. The loser of the match has the option of verifying the score being input correctly prior to the Sunday midnight deadline. The score cannot be changed after the deadline.

Match Balls

For singles, each player is responsible for bringing a new can of balls to the match. One can is opened for the match, and the winner will take home the unopened can.

Reporting Scores

The winner of the match is responsible for submitting the scores on the Challenge Ladder Web site at <http://www.sportsmatchsoftware.com/clubs/rockymountparksandrecreation>

Interruptions or No Shows

Play is continuous unless interrupted by weather, darkness, or the expiration of court time. If the interruption occurs before one set is completed, keep the partial scores, and the match may be restarted at another time. A "no show" or a match unilaterally interrupted by one player (due to illness, injury, broken equipment, or a player leaving the match, etc.) is a win, by default, for the other player.

Rankings

Rankings are calculated using the following formula:

Max difference in rank:	10
Points for challenger:	2
Max points for loser:	10
Points for winner if lower-ranked:	15
Points for winner if tied in rank:	20
Points for winner if higher-ranked:	10

The number of points received by either player for a match is rounded up to the nearest whole number. As an example, suppose Ted, ranked 9, challenges and defeats Bill, ranked 5, with a score of 6-3, 1-6, 6-4 during week 7 of the ladder. Ted would receive 2 points for challenging, 15 points for the upset, and $(5 * 4) / 2 = 10$ bonus points for games won, for a total of 27 points. Bill would receive 10 points for playing, since the cap is 10 by default. The rankings would not include the match results until Monday at 6:00am.

Awards

The current format does not involve a play-off system, therefore encouraging consistent match appearances to accumulate points. The top 3 players accumulating the most points at the end of the 9-week season will receive 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards.

Match Discrepancies

Any match play discrepancies shall be settled immediately using the USTA Friend of Court handbook. If no handbook is readily available, the point is to be replayed.

More Information

Contact the Athletics Division at 972-1160, or Dennis Benjamin at 937-1783 (earthtoo@embarqmail.com)